

TRIBUTE TO CHIEF WARRANT
OFFICER CHARLES C. CAULK

HON. ROBERT A. BRADY

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 26, 2003

Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise to acknowledge the contributions of a man who has served this country for many years with remarkable dedication and honor. I rise to honor Chief Warrant Officer Charles C. Caulk who is retiring from the United States Army after a phenomenal 43 years of service.

It takes a noble man to serve his country. But a man who dedicates 43 years of his life to protecting and serving the ideas that this country was built upon, is a man that few words can describe. Chief Warrant Officer Caulk's contributions to the armed services have left a lasting impact and will be not forgotten.

It is a privilege to recognize a person whose leadership and commitment to our nation has enriched the lives of countless individuals. I hope that all of my distinguished colleagues will join me in honoring Chief Warrant Officer Caulk's unwavering dedication to both the citizens of our great nation and citizens around the world. His efforts create a resonating hope in the lives of those who do not enjoy the fruits of freedom and democracy.

IN HONOR OF AN OUTSTANDING
AMERICAN AND HIS WORK AS
PRESIDENT OF THE INTER-
NATIONAL STANDARDS ORGANI-
ZATION: OLIVER R. SMOOT

HON. RALPH M. HALL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 26, 2003

Mr. HALL of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today for myself and for Chairman BOEHLERT of the House Committee on Science to recognize Oliver R. Smoot, vice-president for external voluntary standards relations at the Information Technology Industry Council (ITI), as he begins his term as the President of the International Standards Organization (ISO). It is a high honor and a major achievement to be asked to be the leader of the World's standards community but it is not surprising that Ollie Smoot is the one chosen. Mr. Smoot has long been a pillar of the standards community, most recently as President-elect of ISO and as Chairman of the American National Standards Institute, the organization which represents the United States in international standards matters and oversees the establishment of U.S. national standards. The ISO, which was established in 1947, serves as the world's primary entity for the adoption of uniform international standards that are relied by all of us every day. Without international agreement on how we measure, determine quality, and provide for health and safety life as we know it today would not be possible. ISO quietly, but effectively, has spent over 50 years helping over 140 nations reach agreement on the standards that underlie world trade, manufacturing, scientific research, and many other aspects of our lives. Since its founding only three other Americans have held

the office of President of this worldwide federation.

We are fortunate that Oliver Smoot is ready, willing, and able to undertake major challenges since his service comes at a pivotal time when the importance of international standards is rapidly increasing. There may never have been a time when ISO faced bigger challenges. As tariffs and other trade barriers wane and world trade increases, the pressures to harmonize standards in many fields increases. As the world becomes more interdependent, the importance of international standards grows. As challenges to ISO's one-country, one vote system of representation mount, having a strong leader at the head of ISO becomes more and more essential. Fortunately, Mr. Smoot has an extensive background in standardization and conformity assessment policies both at the national and international level; he has been a strong leader in numerous ANSI Board-level committees and task forces and has served as chairman of the Institute's Finance Committee and Patent Group. As chairman of the ANSI Organization Member Council, he facilitated ANSI's policy-setting activities affecting more than 250 standard developers, professional societies, trade associations and academic institutions interested in standards, certification and conformity assessment. Balancing the needs of 140 nations can't be that much harder than presiding over the conflicting needs of everyone in the United States who has an interest in standards. If anyone is prepared for the challenge of running the ISO, we assume Oliver Smoot is. He has come a long way from the establishment of the standard "Smoot" as an undergraduate at MIT.

Mr. Smoot will be the guest of honor, on Wednesday the 26th of February at a House of Representatives reception to celebrate his new tenure as President of the ISO. I hope that many of you will take the opportunity at that point to congratulate Mr. Smoot personally. Oliver R. Smoot is a great American who has labored long for the betterment of Science and the global economy and I am pleased that this week he is getting long-deserved recognition of this service.

RECOGNIZING AMERICAN HEART
MONTH

HON. MICHAEL E. CAPUANO

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 26, 2003

Mr. CAPUANO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize February as American Heart Month. Each February during American Heart Month, the American Heart Association launches a nationwide campaign to educate the public about cardiovascular disease. Programs and activities are planned throughout the month to reinforce the message that cardiovascular disease is the number one threat to the overall health and lives of Americans. As a member of the Congressional Heart and Stroke Coalition, I rise today to recognize the efforts of the American Heart Association and reaffirm my commitment to fighting heart disease.

Recent advances in heart treatment are promising—new technologies, screenings and medicines all promote healthier hearts and continue to save millions of lives. Despite

these discoveries and research advances, heart disease remains the nation's leading cause of death, while stroke is the third leading cause of death. More than 61 million Americans suffer from heart disease, stroke or another cardiovascular disease. Combined, these illnesses are expected to cost the nation \$351.8 billion in medical costs in 2003.

Tobacco use, lack of physical activity and poor nutrition all contribute to cardiovascular disease. Smokers have twice the risk for heart attack of nonsmokers. People who are not physically active have twice the risk for heart disease of those who are active, while those who are overweight are also at risk. This February's American Heart Month efforts focus on encouraging individuals to modify these behaviors in order prevent and control cardiovascular disease. American Heart Month is also encouraging citizens to become American Heartsavers by completing training in life-saving CPR and defibrillation and be prepared to act quickly in the case of sudden cardiac arrest.

Recognizing and responding to heart attack symptoms and receiving quick, appropriate care can preclude or limit heart damage. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) currently funds health programs in 29 states and the District of Columbia that develop strategies to reduce the risk of cardiovascular diseases and related risk factors. As we recognize the work of these important programs, let us also honor the doctors, researchers, health professionals, public education professionals, and volunteers for their diligent efforts in preventing, treating, and researching heart disease and for making American Heart Month a success.

INTRODUCTION OF THE ALASKA
NATIVE VETERANS LAND AL-
LOTMENT EQUITY ACT

HON. DON YOUNG

OF ALASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 26, 2003

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. Mr. Speaker, in the last Congress, I introduced a bill to set right an unfair situation dealt to Alaska Native Vietnam Veterans who were unaware that their rights to apply for their Native allotment were expiring while they were off in a foreign land fighting for our country. By far, American Indians and Alaska Natives have the highest percentage of answering their call to duty when there is a conflict of war.

My bill would amend the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act (ANCSA) to provide equitable treatment of Alaska Native Vietnam Veterans in their acquisition of land under the Native Allotment Act. This solution has been a long time in coming and my goal is to have Congress rectify this inequity.

Approximately 2,800 Alaska Natives served in the military during the Vietnam conflict and did not have an opportunity to apply for their native allotment. Even though a prior ANCSA amendment gave Alaska Native Vietnam Veterans an opportunity to obtain their allotment, the Amendment contained three major obstacles providing a roadblock to actually obtaining it.

First, Alaska Native Vietnam Veterans could only apply for land that was vacant and unserved when their use first began. My bill will

increase the available land by authorizing these veterans to apply for land that is federally owned and vacant. This is necessary because most land in Alaska is not available for Alaska Native Vietnam Veterans veteran allotment application under existing law. For example, there is no land available in southeast Alaska because it either is within the Tongass National Forest or has been selected or conveyed to the State of Alaska or ANCSA Corporations.

Second, Alaska Native Vietnam Veterans could only apply if they served in active military duty from January 1, 1969 to December 31, 1971. My bill will expand the military service dates to August 5, 1964 through May 7, 1975, the dates of the entire Vietnam conflict.

Third, Alaska Native Vietnam Veterans had to prove they used the desired allotment land in a continuous and independent manner for five or more years. My bill will replace existing use and occupancy requirements with legislative approval of allotment applications. Many Alaska Native Vietnam Veterans could not meet use and occupancy requirements as a result of military service. This bill changes that so that a deserving Alaska Native Vietnam veteran would not be rejected if that veteran were unable to complete the five years of use of the claimed land, before or after the war.

This is an issue of fairness which is long overdue for my Alaska Native Vietnam Veterans. Never before has the federal government given partial benefits to only 1/4 or 1/2 of any veteran of any war. Fulfill our promise to all Alaska Native Vietnam Veterans and allow them to obtain their Native Allotment under the Native Allotment Act.

RECOGNITION OF JOHN McDONALD

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 26, 2003

Mr. GRAVES. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize John McDonald, a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 168, and in earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

John has been very active with his troop, completing 31 merit badges and participating in camp Geiger. Over the ten years he has been involved in scouting, he has held numerous leadership positions, serving as Patrol Leader and Senior Patrol Leader. John also has been honored for his numerous scouting achievements with such awards as the Arrow of Light Award, The Fire'n Chit Award, the Mic-O-Say Brave Award, the Mic-O-Say Warrior Award, the Totin' Chip Award and the World Conservation Award.

For his Eagle Scout project, John built a 35-foot bridge from the street to the Lathrop Community Football Field, over a ditch, in Lathrop, Missouri.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending John McDonald for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

IN CELEBRATION OF WALTER JEFFERSON LEWIS

HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 26, 2003

Mr. LEE. Mr. Speaker, Walter Jefferson Lee passed away on February 22, 2003. On that day, his family and friends a loving son, brother, and companion and the world lost a passionate lover of art, food, travel, and life itself.

Walter Lewis was born and raised in Schenectady, New York. He went on to study at Syracuse University and Schenectady County Community College, graduating with distinction in the Culinary Arts and Hotel and Business Management.

Walter served his country, spending eleven years in the United States Air Force. During that period, he was stationed in Alaska, California, New Mexico, and Germany. The time spent in those distant posts just whetted his appetite for travel; his journeys took him across much of the globe, and he made lifelong friends wherever he went.

That same passion and zest for life fueled both his occupation and avocation of baking. Walter worked for a number of years managing the bakery department of the Golub Corporation, and he shared his culinary skills with those around him: for him, food, family, and friends were all joyously intertwined.

Walter Lewis will be deeply missed by those of us who knew and loved him. He made a special imprint through his faith, his gifts, and his joy for life. While we mourn his passing, we also celebrate his memory. May he rest in peace!

THE TERRORISTS LIQUIDATION ACT

HON. DAVE CAMP

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 26, 2003

Mr. CAMP. Mr. Speaker, The September 11th Victims' Compensation Fund was created under "The Aviation and Transportation Security Act" (P.L. 107-71). This unprecedented move will ensure that every citizen injured in the terrorist attacks at the World Trade Center and the Pentagon or their surviving family members will receive at least \$1.6 million in compensation.

It is estimated that this Compensation Fund could cost up to \$6 billion of taxpayer money. While I fully support this initiative to help the families of those harmed or killed in the vicious attacks, I believe that we should minimize the cost to the taxpayer. That is why I am introducing the Terrorist Assets Liquidation Act again for the 108th Congress. The bill authorizes the President to use the funds from the liquidated assets of frozen terrorist accounts to refund the Treasury Department for funds used to compensate victims of terrorism.

Our nation has shown great and moving compassion to the victims of September 11th, with generous donations and support to charity groups providing aid and emergency assistance to victims. While it was important to show compassion and recognize our nation's need to help, we should punish those respon-

sible, holding them accountable for their murderous crimes and limit their drain on our nation's taxpayer resources.

RECOGNITION OF BRYANT KAGAY

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 26, 2003

Mr. GRAVES. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Bryant Kagay, a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 35, and in earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Bryant has been very active with his troop, completing 21 merit badges. Over the years he has been involved in Scouting, he has held numerous leadership positions. For his Eagle Scout project, Bryant landscaped around the sign at his church.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Bryant Kagay for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

CHENEY TASK FORCE RECORDS AND GAO AUTHORITY

HON. HENRY A. WAXMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 26, 2003

Mr. WAXMAN. Mr. Speaker, on February 12, I gave a statement on the floor discussing the serious implications of GAO's decision to drop its lawsuit seeking access to the Vice President's energy task force records. Since then, I have received a letter from the Comptroller General responding to my remarks and asking that I make the press release that GAO issued when he decided to drop the lawsuit a part of the RECORD. In accordance with his request, I would like to make both his response and the press release a part of the RECORD.

GENERAL ACCOUNTING OFFICE,

Washington, DC, February 19, 2003.

Hon. HENRY A. WAXMAN,
House of Representatives.

DEAR MR. WAXMAN: I am writing in connection with your floor statement of February 12 concerning my recent decision not to appeal the district court decision in the *Walker v. Cheney* case. I appreciate your inserting my recent letter to you in the record and believe that it addresses several important issues. At the same time, I would respectfully request that you consider inserting my related press statement of February 7, 2003, into the record if you have the opportunity to do so. I have enclosed another copy of that statement with this letter.

There are three aspects of your floor statement that are of concern to me. First, as you know, we do not believe that failure to appeal the district court decision precludes us from filing suit against another executive branch party in connection with a different matter in the future. Second, while I did solicit input from a wide range of Congressional leaders from both parties before I made my decision the decision was mine. I was not directed, threatened or unduly pressured to take the action that I did. Just as